

"WHEN IT COMES TO A MATTER OF TALK, WE SOMETIMES ADMIRE THE QUITTER," CHATTERS SWAMPOODLE PETE.

New York Yankees Open Season;
New Players and Manager Ready

THE TIMES' COMPLETE SPORTING PAGE

Colleges and Schools Busy With
Baseball Games After Vacations

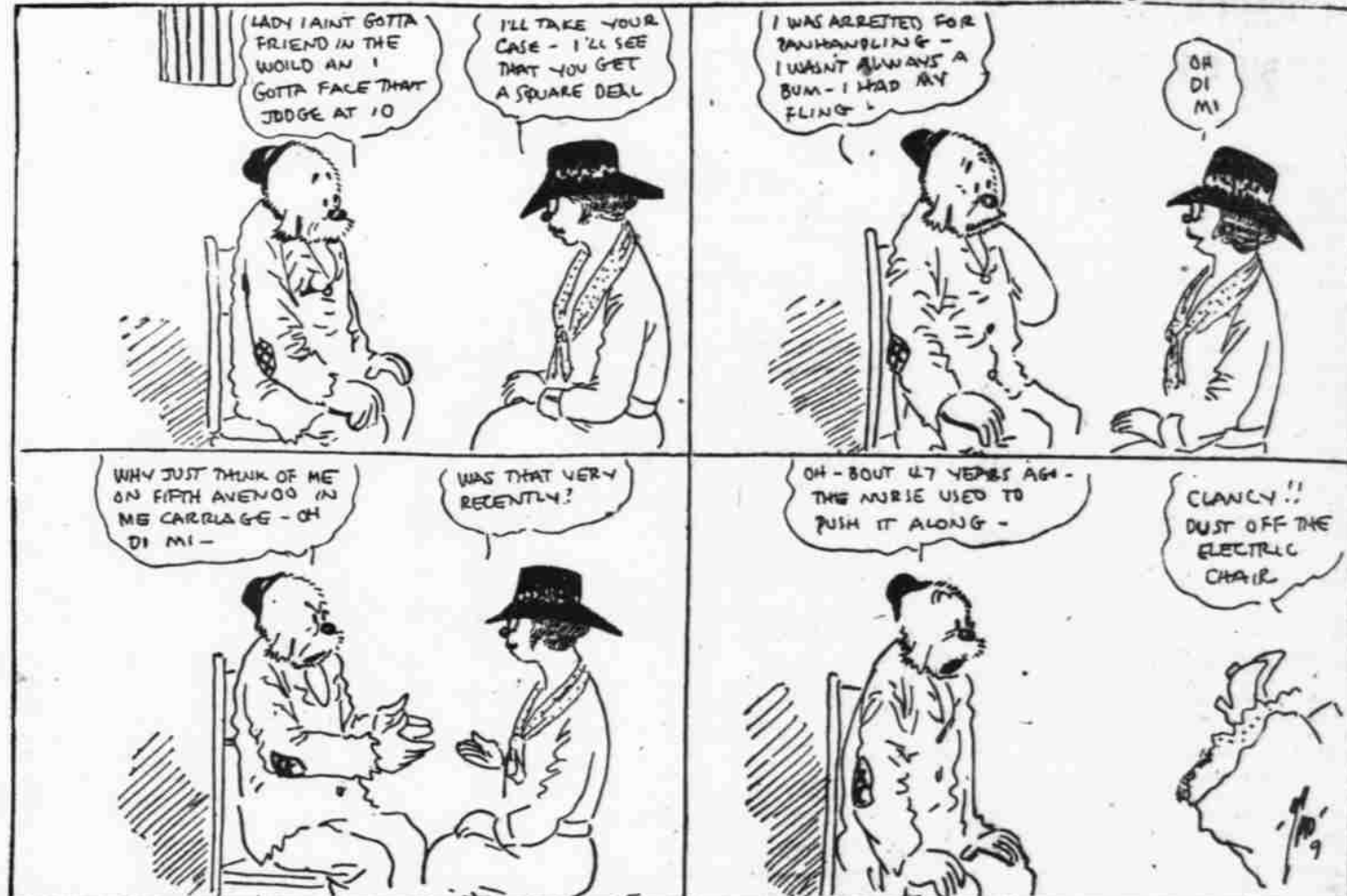
Indoor Sports

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He Wasn't Always Bum



JOHNSON WILL TWIRL OPENING GAME AGAINST MILLER HUGGINS' NEW OUTFIT

By LOUIS A. DOUGHER.
War-time Washington today greets war-time baseball. Somewhat wounded by calls from Uncle Sam, our great national game comes smiling up to the line, ready for duty, offering its harmless, exhilarating battles in beneficial opposition to the thrilling pull of that great battle in France.

Owing to his being obliged to attend a number of important Cabinet meetings today, President Wilson announced that he would be unable to assist the Griffins in starting the league. Last year, too, he was too busy, the United States having just declared war upon Germany.

Washington, from the highest to the humblest, is waiting and ready for the annual American League pennant race to get under way. Grand stands, pavilions, and bleachers will hold their thousands of smiling fans, all urging Clark Griffith and his home team to victory.

Members of the House of Representatives, grave, serious Senators, Washington's business men of all degrees, tollers in the thousands of busy Government offices, soldiers camped about the world's greatest Capital, and right down the line to the ten-year-olds of the "knothole gang," all wait with joy for the sound of the wood against the leather.

Facing the Yanks.

The Griffins face the New York Yankees in the first game of the year at 4 o'clock. Both teams have trained faithfully for the past month, and have been pronounced fit for the long grind that ends only with the chilly days of October.

Washington fans will give a rousing welcome to the new players, Johnny Lavan and Bert Shotton, both obtained from the St. Louis Browns.

Lavan is a lieutenant in the naval reserve, and plays ball only until he receives orders to report for active duty. He is a typical young American, an athlete of the highest class, but a patriot in all. Officers and men in khaki of army or blue of navy will have a heart as they watch his movements around the infield, for he may soon pass from the big leagues.

Walter Johnson and his battery partner, Eddie Ainsmith, are certain to be applauded when they step out upon the field. So will Joe Judge, who is gamely trying to overcome the possible weakness of a broken leg. And good old Zeb Milan, classiest of outfielders, will have to doff his cap to the cheers of the throng.

Yankee Stars.

Little Miller Huggins, the newest manager of the Yankees, offers Ray Caldwell, co-star of the mound with Johnson; Frank Baker, of home-run fame; Del Pratt, slugging second baseman; Ping Bodie, slugging outfielder; and Wally Pipp, the big first baseman, who played at Catholic University before donning the big league spangles. The fans know these Yankees, and will salute them.

With the gates opening two hours before game time, and a band concert promised for more than an hour before the opening festivities, the fans will have plenty of time to get into the mood for major league baseball.

Watch For These Fellows in Today's Combat

WALTER JOHNSON and EDDIE AINSMITH, Griff's crack battery, booked to oppose the Yankee.

JOE JUDGE, Griff's first sacker, who hopes his injured leg won't bother him at all this season.

BERT SHOTTON, Griff's right fielder, fastest man in the league in getting down to first base while with the Brownies.

JOHNNY LAVAN, Griff's brand-new shortstop, chain lightning in the field and very dangerous at the bat in a pinch.

PING BODIE, the Yanks' banana merchant out in left field, one of the most popular players in the American League.

DEL PRATT, the Yanks' new second sacker, obtained from the Browns and expected to tighten up that infield.

FRANK BAKER, the old home-run king of the Mackmen, who is playing fine ball at third and swatting the pill.

TOM FISHER WILL LEAD ALEXANDRIA FANS TO CONTEST

"Smiling" Tom Fisher, mayor of Alexandria, will be at today's opening game at Georgia avenue. With him will come about half the town, too, if signs prove true, for "Smiling" Tom is only one of the hottest bunch of baseball rooters in the world.

Washingtonians are prone to smile at Alexandria and Alexandria, though in the old days how they used to flock down the river for those succulent oyster roasts, but the little Virginia city is still on the map. It has kept quiet throughout the long, cold winter, but with old King Baseball returning to his own, Alexandria wakes up. That's where Alexandria begins to live.

"Smiling" Tom Fisher will head an official delegation from the city government, while Sylvester Green, president of the Cardinal A. C., the latest amateur organization in the city, will lead the unofficial Alexandrians.

"Sure Alexandria will be represented," said Mayor Fisher today. "We back up the Washington baseball club just as it is our own, remember that. And whenever the Washington team can get it right in Alexandria, we will take it. But so long as it's out on Georgia avenue, we Alexandrians will be out there, rooting for Clark Griffith, Walter Johnson, and the rest of the home boys."

YANKS MAY LOSE FOUR PLAYERS TO UNCLE SAM

Four of the New York Yankees, here today for the first series of the 1918 campaign, are in class 1 A of the army draft and may be ordered away long before the season is over. They are Wally Pipp, the big first baseman; "Muddy" Ruel, the promising young catcher, and Ed Monroe and Bob McGraw, husky right-handed hurlers.

Armando Marcana, the Cuban outfielder, is on his way here and may report tonight or tomorrow.

WILL ARRANGE GAMES.

Field and track games for Eastern, Western, Georgetown Preps, and Technical will probably be arranged on the date of May 4 if present plans carry.

SWIMMERS ACTIVE.

Details will be completed for the first high school swimming meet due to be held Saturday at a meeting of the faculty athletic advisers. Swimming candidates are unusually active at present.

TRACK TEAMS DUE FOR HARDER WORK AS MEETS APPROACH

Georgetown's relay team, composed of Griffith, Gates, Connolly, Durrack and McCallill will put in some good ticks in preparation for the South Atlantic title relay to be held at the Penn relay games on April 27. Gates and Griffith will probably enter events on Friday at Franklin Field.

All of the high school track squads will work this week in preparation for the meets of next month. Several dual meets are in prospect. Central has a host of youngsters working out, as has Tech for the big meets of May 18.

Coach Apple, of Tech, will probably send a relay team to Philadelphia. The team will probably be composed of McNamara, Gross, Hough, Carpenter and Burgess. The Tech coach expects to make a good showing in the class in which Tech is rated at the big meet.

WOULD HONOR SHERIDAN AT WASHINGTON STADIUM

If the bill now before Congress providing for the erection of a huge athletic stadium in Potomac Park passes, an effort will be made to have it named Martin J. Sheridan, after the great athlete who died a few weeks ago of pneumonia. A tablet to his memory will be placed in the stadium. The Martin J. Sheridan memorial fund committee is collecting money for this object and already has \$1,500.

TOURNAMENT TO START.

Tennis players at Central High School expect to hold a spring tournament just as soon as courts are available.

Baseball Opens

American League.

APRIL 15.

New York at Washington.

Philadelphia at Boston.

APRIL 16.

St. Louis at Chicago.

Philadelphia at Boston.

New York at Washington.

Detroit at Cleveland.

National League.

APRIL 16.

Chicago at St. Louis.

Boston at Philadelphia.

Brooklyn at New York.

Pittsburgh at Cincinnati.

He'll Be Back of First



Here's the Old Fox as he will look out there at first base, watching for an advantage in the struggle. He never gives up. He will be there in the first inning and right down to the ninth, cheering on his boys. Going to cheer with him?

BAN JOHNSON REFUSES TO MAKE PREDICTIONS

CHICAGO, April 15.—For the first time since he broke into baseball, Ban Johnson, president of the American League, gives out no official statement on the opening of the season in Washington and Boston.

"For various reasons," says Johnson, "I have declined to make any comments this spring. A number of papers have asked for a short interview, but I refused to venture an opinion."

TEAMS GET ACTION.

Baseball practice is due at all of the schools and colleges here today. No work was done last week. Teams have been idle as a result of the bad weather of last week, and many games have been called off.

SERIES WILL START.

The freshman baseball schedule for the high schools will start Wednesday. Eastern plays Western and Business meets Technical.

BROWNS TAKE TITLE WITH FOUR STRAIGHT

ST. LOUIS, April 15.—The Browns are champions of St. Louis as a result of their fourth straight victory over the Cardinals yesterday, 3 to 1. Lowdermilk won two games and pitched the first five innings of yesterday's contest. Davenport relieved him and earned the victory when his mates scored three runs in the eighth. Score by innings:

	R.	H.	E.
Browns	0	0	0
Cardinals	0	0	0

Batteries—Browns, Lowdermilk; Davenport, Rogers and Nunamaker; Cardinals, Doak, May, and Gonzalez.

NAVY PRACTICES TODAY.

At 5 o'clock today the Navy baseball team, which tomorrow meets Western High School, will practice at No. 4 diamond, White Lot, and all players are requested to report.

TEAMS GET GOING ON DIAMOND AFTER TWO WEEKS LAYOFF

College and high school baseball teams here will endeavor to get going after a lay-off of practically two weeks, due to Easter holidays and the rainy weather.

Georgetown is endeavoring to arrange a game with a camp team for Wednesday. On Thursday the Hilltoppers will tackle Mt. St. Joseph's, while on Saturday the Hilltoppers will travel to Naval Academy for a game with the Midshipmen.

Gallaudet and Catholic University will hook up on Wednesday if the contest can be arranged. Catholic University defeated Gallaudet in a twelve-inning battle earlier in the season. The second meeting between the teams was postponed and will be played Wednesday if conditions are acceptable to both institutions.

Was Offered Date.

On Saturday the Brooklanders will entertain the Mt. St. Mary's baseball team at Brookland. Maryland State's schedule is uncertain. Coach Byrd was offered a date for Wednesday at Georgetown, but will play later in the season.

The schoolboys have a lot of games arranged for the week. Central has two hard games booked for Wednesday and Saturday. The mid-week contest will find the Centralists going down to Episcopal for the annual game there. On Saturday the team takes a jaunt to Baltimore to meet the City College team.

Army and Navy have two games. The Annapolis exams come this week, so the future soldiers and sailors will play Eastern on Friday and the Baltimore Polytechnic Institute on Saturday. Coach Venable will be busy with so much practicing on account of the examinations.

Has Good Players.

Tomorrow Western High School tackles Lane Lacey's Navy Department team. The Navy players include some of the best amateur athletes in the District, and can be expected to furnish a fine article of baseball. Saturday the Westerns will play Georgetown Preps on the Hilltop Field.

On Wednesday the Georgetown Preps will go to Alexandria for a game with the high school team there. The Hilltoppers have been out of practice for some time on account of the long layoff.

Technical has had a number of games postponed so far and will endeavor to arrange one of these games for Wednesday. On Saturday Tech goes down to Episcopal High School for a game. Coach Apple has been trying to arrange a dual meet with Episcopal for Saturday, but it seems that as many of the Episcopal baseball players are also on the track team the idea fell through.

Batting Orders For Today

YANKEES.	GRIFFIN.
Gilbooley, rf.	Shotton, rf.
Miller, cf.	Foster, 3b.
Pipp, 1b.	Milan, cf.
Baker, 3b.	Shanks, lf.
Bodie, lf.	Judge, 1b.
Peck, ss.	Morgan, 2b.
Ruel, c.	Lavan, ss.
Hannah, c.	Ainsmith, c.
Caldwell, p.	Johnson, p.
Love, p.	

Game Starts At 4 P. M.

HUGGINS' CREW IS AT HARRINGTON TO REMAIN FOUR DAYS

Twenty-two ball players, one general secretary, a little manager, a chubby coach, and four war correspondents arrived at the Hotel Harrington this morning. The Yankees were on the job.

Manager Miller Huggins was accompanied by the following: Secretary Charlie McManus, Coach Pat O'Connor, Bill Sizum, Sid Mercer, Charles Taylor, and John Lawrence, scribes; and Pipp, Pratt, Peckinbaugh, Baker, Ward, Beck, Bodie, Miller, Gilbooley, High, Lamar, Vick, Walters, Ruel, Hannah, Caldwell, Mogridge, Love, Russell, Thormahlen, Monroe, and McGraw.

The Yankees are to remain in Washington for four days, battling the Griffins each afternoon at Georgia avenue. Then they will go away from this place, taking bag and baggage, stopping at Boston.

BRENTWOOD HAS CLOSE CALL IN MARINES GAME

Brentwood had a close shave in losing out to the U. S. Marine Corps team, 1 to 1, at Brentwood. Neither team scored during the nine innings.

In the tenth the Marines counted, but Brentwood came in for two runs and a win. P. D. Loomis, Brentwood, D. C., wants games for Brentwood.

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MARLIN KOPP WILL LEAD OFF BATTERS FOR CONNIE MACK

BOSTON, April 15.—Marlin Kopp, the Little Buffalo outfielder, has been chosen by Connie Mack to play left field and lead off the batting order of the Athletics this season. Kopp will get his big league bath today, when the reorganized Mackmen go up against the Red Sox in the first contest of the 1918 season.

"I will pick my pitcher for the first game from Van Gress, Elmer Myers or Bill Adams," said Mack. "If McAvoy catches he will bat sixth, but either Cady or Perkins will be dropped from the lead, which he held last year, to second, making way for Kopp and Shannon, and Dugan will come in just ahead of the batteries."

Scott Perry, the big pitcher from the Atlanta Crackers, was taken ill on the train homeward, but he felt better today, and may be able to enter the box during the present series.

ALEX TWIRLS OPENER; MERKLE IS A HOLDOUT

ST. LOUIS, April 15.—Still worrying over the status of Grover Alexander, in the draft, the Chicago Cubs were today prepared for the opening game tomorrow. Alexander went to Chicago for a conference with President (Vagman) man, but probably will be here to work in the first game. If Aleck isn't drafted April 25, he is expected to be in the May 1 call.

Fred Merkle, first baseman, was a last minute holdout for higher wages.

FOXALL COP VICTORY.

The Foxall Athletic Club defeated the Federal 10 to 6, yesterday. The features of the game were the pitching of Goodrich, Howard's backstopping, Elliott's batting, and the fielding of Boelter.